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Calls Dominican Chief Red

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WASHINGTON — Hector Garcia Godoy, provisional president of the Dominican Republic, is a "pro-Communist" claims Brig. Gen. Elias Wessin Y Wessin.

"From his actions, he has demonstrated that he is the leader of the Dominican Communists," Wessin said in Oct. 1 testimony that was released Thursday by the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee. Wessin, 42, the Dominican Republic's best-known military figure, was forced into exile Sept. 9. Two members of the subcommittee heard him in secret session in Miami Beach.

Wessin spearheaded the fight against the Dominican rebels in the 4½ days before the first U.S. troops arrived in Santo Domingo. He was muscled out of the country because the U.S. and the Garcia Godoy government felt that his departure was necessary to make peace with the rebels.

The subcommittee also made the first public distribution of a report, prepared by U.S. intelligence agencies, entitled "Communist efforts to take over the revolt in the Dominican Republic."

The report had leaked out previously. The substance of it was printed in the Detroit Free Press last June.

The report lists 77 Communists active in the rebel movement. Forty-five Dominicans trained in Cuba took part in the revolt, it says.

The report said that Cuba's General Directorate of Intelligence had "for some time provided financial support" to two Communist groups in the rebel movement, the pro-Castro 14th of June Movement and the pro-Peking Dominican Popular Movement.

The report cites an arms shipment from Cuba two years ago, which was intercepted by Dominican authorities.

WESSIN, KNOWN as an extreme conservative, was asked by the subcommittee for his opinion on Col. Francisco Caamaño Deno, the rebel military leader.

"I did not consider him a Communist before the 24th of April (when the revolution broke out), Now I do."

Wessin was the central figure in the coup that overthrew President Juan Bosch on Sept. 25, 1963. The April rebellion began as an effort to return Bosch to power.

Wessin made clear that his opinion of Bosch has not changed. "There is no doubt that Juan Bosch wanted to turn over the country to the Communists," he told the subcommittee.

Wessin views the revolution as a manifesto issued by a communist plot, foreshadowed by the Popular Socialist Party, now called the Dominican Communist Party, on March 30, 1965, less than a month before the revolution began.

The manifesto, included in the subcommittee report, said, "It is necessary to use the slogan of the return of President Bosch" in order to gain widespread support for a revolution with Communist goals.

WESSIN TENDS to see all rebel sympathizers as Communists, except for members of the Dominican military who joined the revolt. Soldiers who joined the rebels were "confused," he said.

The "approximately 20,000 hard-core Communists" in the Dominican Republic "consider themselves flushed with victory" by the settlement that brought Garcia Godoy to office, Wessin said.

In a couple of cases, Wessin's testimony put him in a better light.

John Bartlow Martin, a presidential emissary to Santo Domingo, has written that Wessin "welshed" on an offer to resign in May. But Wessin

told the subcommittee that a letter of his "was not properly interpreted" by a U.S. Ambassador W. Tapley Bennett Jr.

In a much-publicized story which Wessin leaked shortly before his departure, the general said that two U.S. officials offered him \$50,000 for his modest house—an exorbitant bid which Wessin interpreted as an attempted bribe.

In his testimony, Wessin said that it was his wife, "without consulting with me," who put the \$50,000 price tag on the house.

His wife's offer was accepted by the U.S. officials, Lt. Col. Joe Wyrick, a military attache, and David Phillips of the Central Intelligence Agency. "They told me that they would give me \$8,000 immediately and the remainder when I was on the plane," Wessin told the subcommittee.

WESSIN refused the offer, but said he was forced to go when seven jeepsloads of soldiers converged on his house, while 26 troop-laden helicopters neutralized his men at San Isidro Air Base.

Three civilians with revolvers escorted him onto a U.S. military plane without even a change of clothes, he said. They took him to Panama, where he was

given \$60 and shipped to Miami, he said.

Wessin's story was heard with obvious sympathy by the subcommittee. Senator Roman L. Hruska (R., Neb.) issued a statement Thursday saying his ouster "amounted to appeasement."



Wessin

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